

was supplied by the companies last year). Arrangements have already been made with the oil companies for the supply of this quantity. The companies have promised full co-operation and it is understood that the first consignment of diesel oil has already been delivered at Alleppey.

I may add that a programme relating to the supply of oil has already been drawn up in advance by the Special Officer in consultation with the oil companies. I may also tell this Honourable House that a representative of the company who was here a couple of days ago said that this programme will be adhered to.

*Paddy purchased from within the State.*

47. \***Mr. M. K. Velu Pillai (Quilon cum Kunnattur):** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of paddy purchased by Government from within the State in 1119; and

(b) the cost incurred for collecting and transporting the same?

**Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar :** (a) 97,72,829 Paras, 7 Edangalies.

(b) Rs. 7.55 lakhs.

*Settlement pattom.*

48. \***Mr. N. Narayana Kurup :** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether the press note dated 1st September 1943 is imperative that settlement pattom should be given to Government even if the yield is only just sufficient to meet the cultivation expenses and for consumption at the rate allowed by the Government; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, whether the cultivator of the above category has to pay settlement pattom and take to ration for the family consumption, by paying more, after receiving less for what he sells?

**Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar :** (a) Yes.

(b) Every landholder is liable to sell to Government the quota of paddy on the basis of settlement pattom irrespective of his requirements for domestic consumption. If the balance after the sale of the quota is insufficient to meet his full requirements he has to obtain ration under ration card.

**Mr. N. Narayana Kurup :** May I know whether the Press note dated 1-9-43 says that all paddy produced in the land belongs to Government and that all the excess paddy remaining after meeting the cultivation expenses and bona fide consumption, will be compulsorily purchased by Government?

**Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar :** Yes, Sir, that is so.

**Mr. N. Narayana Kurup :** Does it not mean therefrom that paddy required for the cultivation expenses and bona fide consumption will be the first charge on the yield of paddy before compulsory purchase is thought of by Government?

**Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar :** No, Sir. The Press note has only stated that paddy for the cultivation expenses will be the first charge. And if it is found that after purchase of the excess paddy there is not sufficient quantity left for the cultivator for his consumption, he must depend on the ration card allowed to him.

**Mr. N. Narayana Kurup :** Will the member kindly read the first part of the Press note?

**Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar :** The whole question does not arise because Government have said in unmistakable terms that the entire quantity of paddy produced in the country belongs to the Government, so much so, virtually the Government are the owners of all that paddy. Further, in an area which is heavily in deficit and where over all rationing has been introduced the logical procedure to be adopted is for the Government to exercise complete control over the food grains produced in the land.

**Mr. N. Narayana Kurup :** Am I to take it then that the press note dated 1-9-43 has been cancelled?

**Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar :** It specifically states that where it is found absolutely necessary that a party has no paddy to pay in the form of settlement pattom after meeting the cultivation expenses and bona fide consumption, the officers engaged in the collection of settlement pattom are given discretion to allow concessions to such parties.

**Mr. N. Narayana Kurup :** Then, Sir, may I know whether I could make a statement in this connection.

**President :** You may do that.

**Mr. N. Narayana Kurup :** Sir, the press note clearly says that all paddy produced in the State belongs to Government. The excess paddy available after meeting the cultivation expenses and bona fide consumption, will be compulsorily purchased by Government. That is the main principle enunciated in the press note. Supposing, as my honourable friend was stating that, after the payment of settlement pattom, there is not sufficient paddy left

for meeting his livelihood, it means that the party should get from elsewhere for his own consumption. It means that one has to compulsorily surrender whatever paddy is produced by him for Government purposes and thereby purchase paddy from Government at a higher rate. That certainly is an injustice caused to the people. No cultivator can tolerate such a situation. In so far as I produce paddy with very great difficulty for the consumption of myself and my children, to surrender that to Government without taking it for my use, that is an intolerable state of affairs, Sir,—

**President:** There is no question of toleration or otherwise by any cultivator. In various Provinces, rationing has been introduced and everywhere the ownership of any food grain produced from the land vests with Government. The proposition definitely is that no cultivator is entitled to any grain produced in the land as a matter of right. But, there is no doubt that every effort will be made by Government to see that a dual process is not done namely, taking paddy from the land owner and selling it back to him.

**Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai:** Sir, may I explain the situation.

**Mr. N. Narayana Kurup:** Sir, it can be done only after I have finished my statement.

**President:** All the same, your proposition has nowhere been accepted.

**Mr. N. Narayana Kurup:** But I want justice to be done by Government.

**President:** Order, order. This is a matter which may very appropriately be taken up under General Administration Demand. If you think it is unjust and want any modification, you may raise it then as a specific question.

**Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai:** I can explain at once how the statement in the Press Note came in. The only point is this. It was contended by certain big landholders that the settlement pattom should be the maximum that should be taken over. It was then indicated in the Press Note that the settlement pattom furnishes only an indication of the basic minimum of every field and that the entire produce of the land will be regarded as Government property and what concession will be given to these landholders will be only the cost of cultivation and also the bona fide needs for his consumption.

**Mr. N. Narayana Kurup:** May I request the honourable member to read the first part of the Press note completely so that the President may.....

**President:** I happen to have drafted it myself.

**Mr. N. Narayana Kurup:** Then you can refresh your memory.....

**President:** The honourable member may raise the question during discussion time.

*Paddy Cultivation.*

49. \***Mr. A. N. Satyanesan:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of paddy purchased by Government within the State in 1119 ;

(b) whether they have any scheme in view for direct cultivation of paddy in the hilly areas ;

(c) the acreage of Government lands leased out for paddy cultivation in 1119 ; and

(d) whether they have adopted measures to import cattle from British India ?

**Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar:** (a) 98,02,783 paras and 2½ Edangalies till 21-12-1119.

(b) No.

(c) 295 acres were taken on lease out of 1,266 acres made available.

(d) Action has been taken.

*Representations from Agriculturists.*

50. \***Mr. K. Shahul Hameed (Trivandrum and Neduman-gad cum Chirayinkil):** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they have received representations from agriculturists praying that they may be exempted from the sale of paddy to Government in view of the very poor crop this time consequent on the failure of rain ; and

(b) whether Government propose to take any step with a view to redress their grievance ?

**Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar:** (a) Yes.

(b) Concessions in the sale of quota of paddy to Government are allowed on the basis of the Press Note dated 1-9-1943.

*Students in Hostels—Supply of rice.*

51. \***Mr. N. Narayana Kurup:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether the students in the Hostels are supplied ration rice alone ;

(b) if not, what all things are rationed out for the use of the inmates of the hostels ;